

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. By this reply, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 9-11, and 16 are amended. Claims 1, 6 and 15 are independent claims.

Reasons for Entry of Amendments

At the outset, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered into the Official File in view of the fact that the amendments to the claims automatically place the application in condition for allowance.

In the alternative, if the Examiner does not agree that this application is in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered for the purpose of appeal. This Amendment was not presented at an earlier date in view of the fact that the Applicant did not fully appreciate the Examiner's position until the Final Office Action was reviewed.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection

Claims 1-2, 6-7, 10-16 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuzawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,549,528) in view of Anderson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,229,801). Claims 3-5, 8-9, and 17, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuzawa in view of Anderson et al. and further in view of Freimann et al. (U.S. Patent No.

6,134,554). This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed.

While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to advance the prosecution of the present invention, each of independent claims 1, 6, and 15 is amended herein to recite a combination of elements/method steps, including a size of the memory (M_ver) for storing the version numbers of the sections being equivalent to:

$$M_{ver} = N \times 8\text{bits} \times 2 = 16N,$$

where N = a number of the table IDs which are version masked in the version memory (M_ver).

Support for the above novel features can be found in the specification, for example on page 12, lines 1 and 2.

The novel features of the present invention permit a major reduction of hardware and decoding as compared with conventional devices and methods.

By contrast, nowhere do any of Yuzawa, Anderson et al., or Freimann suggest a size of the memory (M_ver) for storing the version numbers of the sections being equivalent to $M_{ver} = N \times 8\text{bits} \times 2 = 16N$, where N = a number of the table IDs which are version masked in the version memory (M_ver).

Thus, at least for the reason above, the Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6, and 15 are in condition for allowance. Further, the dependent claims are in condition for allowance due their dependency on

allowable independent claims, or due to the additional novel features contained therein.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

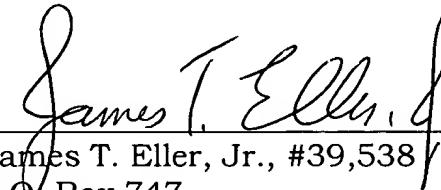
For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and earnestly solicits an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Should there be any matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Carl T. Thomsen (Registration No. 50,786) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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